

What are PANS and PANDAS?

PANS/PANDAS are acronyms that stand for Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome and Pediatric Autoimmune Neurodegenerative Disease Associated with Strep, respectively. They are autoimmune-related diseases that often are mixed up with autism and other psychological disorders because of symptoms.

Who is affected?

Many kids and adults can be affected, but many cases still go undiagnosed, so the number is still unknown. However, awareness of the work related to the diseases has increased rapidly in the last few years.

What is my connection?

I have very close friends and former constituents, Joel and Anna Troyer, who are going through this right now with their oldest son Landry. It presents thousands of challenges to them in the form of education, behavior management, and just personal interaction at home.

What am I doing about it?

Rep. Howrylak has a bill, **HB 5035**, that would require insurance coverage for these diseases just as it is for other diseases. As it is, Joel and Anna have paid tens of thousands of dollars and traveled out of the country on their own to seek treatment. My bill, **HB 5036**, would set up a council to at least study the latest science and make recommendations to the Michigan Legislature and the state in general in the future.

Where can additional information be found?

You can find additional information on many different websites run by different organizations, but the organization that the Troyer Family has been working with is Moleculera Labs. Their website can be found at www.MoleculeraLabs.com. Full disclosure, they are a private organization.

I hope to gain your support.

Sincerely,

Aaron Miller